1921

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
BERKELEY

Tues Oct 18th

Dear Munz:-

Well I worked over that proof and finally sent it off to Evens. I checked up the references and it is just as well that I did for I caught two errors of a minor nature but one terrible ball up in the synonymy of Cryptantha maritima. I wrote six new lines to be substituted in place of an equal number of lines that talked of Cystopteria; I paid no attention to the Eriogonum or the Linum. One thing is clear, we have to be more careful and deliberate preparation of our next paper. Live and learn!

I have gone over the Fern paper MS and as a whole I thing very highly of it. I talked over the plans with Mr Parish and he suggested a number of things. He has convinced me that keys and possibly even descriptions would be a desideratum. He says that he thinks dotting would far from tell the whole story on a map and that he would think that shading would be the only satisfactory way of showing the distribution of the more general forms. The whole trouble is that we have not as complete data as we might wish for and that shading would nessitate a number of hazards regarding the destribution in some parts of the territory. If we include keys and descriptions we will really be putting out a memoir and it will be tending towards becoming a phamplet rather than a magazine article. A complete account of t the So Cal ferns would be a nice thing to tackle if you think that we have the knowledge to warrant the attempt. If such is undertaken it would mean plates besides the maps, bibliography, destribution, ecology, and miscl notes of interest. ~~Such a project would have to~~ Of course we dont want to start anything like that unless we have some idea as to how it is going to be published.

Parish tells me that Saunders collected a Selaginella in Snow Creek SBerdoo Mts and that Maxon det. it as asprella; I bet that Watsoni of our southern mts is going to turn out asprella. I will go into the matter when I get Parishes collections in front of me down at Stanford. It looks to me and apparently Mrs Hall has felt the same, that Polypodum Scouleri of the Channel Isls is naught but the thick form of PCalif.

Parish agrees with me now that the inclusion of the Panamints in our limits may not be wise. Looking up the location on the map I find it pretty far north and that their flora has some distinctly Sierran elements. I would suggest that we draw the limits in the northern Mohave at the parallel of lat running thru the Tehachaipi (that wrong spelling) Pass. If we get up into middle California in the desert we would consistently be called to consider the remainder of the area. We are going to loose something no matter how we draw our lines so I do not see why we should regret loosing the Panamints. We can of course mention the occurence of species in these mts but I do not think it best to chart their flora on the maps. It is noteworthy that their exclusion would make our area more compact and our maps more economical as to space. What do you think about it ?

Well these are just a few thots that have occured to me and as they are off my chest I will close and get to bed. Let me hear from you sometime soon.

I M Johnston